Welcoming COL Charles Luke – 2020-2021 Army War College Fellow
By Dr. Margaret Pentecost

In its seventh year at UofL, the U.S. Army War College Fellow program allows Army officers to spend a year on campus conducting research and outreach while auditing classes to sharpen their leadership skills and broaden their outlook as strategic thinkers. Since 2014, the College of Education and Human Development, in collaboration with the McConnell Center, has hosted the fellows to enhance critical thinking skills, academic prowess, and professional networks as a result of their year spent at UofL.

We are pleased to recognize COL Charles Luke as the UofL 2020-2021 Army War College fellow. COL Luke graduated from Xavier University and holds a Master’s degree in Diplomacy from Norwich University. He has held several assignments in the U.S including the Pentagon, and deployments include Italy, Iraq, Kosovo, Afghanistan, Central Africa and South East Asia. He is published in Military Review, Army Magazine, and the Army War College Center for Land Warfare. COL Luke’s strategy paper titled “Hidden Dangers: The American Industrial Agriculture System” focuses on the vulnerability of U.S. agriculture and food distribution as a national security issue. During his time at UofL, COL Luke has participated in a number of University and community meetings to broaden his network and experience.

COL Luke states, “I’m honored and humbled to be the University of Louisville War College fellow. I’ve have had the opportunity to meet amazing students and professors. Through the fellowship I’ve had incredible access to research, and to meet public figures to include Commissioner Ryan Quarles, Senator Mitch McConnell, and Wendell Berry.” “The fellows often say that this is one of the best years of their military careers. The feeling is mutual,” says Dr. Margaret Pentecost who works closely with the fellows on their academic coursework and research projects. “It has been one of my professional highlights to work with our seven fellows. Each one has offered our campus community a glimpse of the world of a military officer. Their leadership, experience, training, service, and professionalism is exceptional.”

The fellows audit academic courses that enhance their research strategy projects, but their participation in course discussions provide our students and faculty with unique perspectives and insights. Dr. Denise Cumberland, Associate Professor, states “The Army War College fellows in my courses have been self-starters who navigate through the materials along with other professionals, offering insightful examples for
consideration.” Dr. Ann Herd, Assistant Professor, shares "The Army War College fellows bring a wealth of experience in leadership, problem-solving, critical thinking, and global awareness and skills in working with other cultures, that provide an invaluable contribution to our graduate-level leadership courses. Army War College Fellows have spent their entire careers in service to our country and have exhibited the highest levels of leadership." Dr. Herd adds, "The vast majority of students (less than 1% of the population) have no experience or contact with the military during their lifetime. Having an Army War College Fellow in the classroom is a wonderful opportunity for graduate leadership students to connect with, and gain some insights into, military and selfless service leadership that epitomizes our U of L Cardinal values."

University of Louisville Army War College Fellows (2014-2021)
COL Charles Luke 2020-2021
COL Jonathan Patrick 2019-2020
COL Jeremiah Jette 2018-2019
COL Brian Wortinger 2017-2018
COL Archie Herndon 2016-2017
COL Thomas Russell-Tutty 2015-2016
COL Christopher Wynder 2014-2015